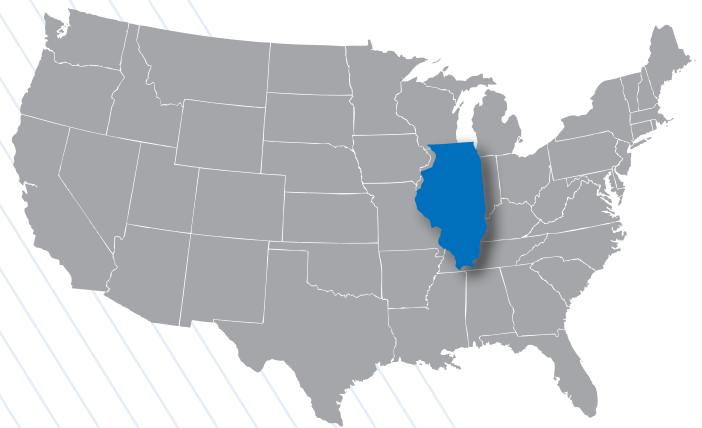


Illinois Manufacturing Excellence Center (IMEC)

Illinois Manufacturing Excellence Center (IMEC) was established in 1996 to improve the productivity and competitiveness of Illinois' small and mid-sized manufacturing firms. The center links a company's long-term plans and related goals with on-site implementation services by identifying performance gaps, solving these gaps, and building a culture to support sustained improvements. IMEC helps optimize operating capacity, implement advanced product and process innovations, increase sales and enter new markets, and improve profitability.

IMEC customizes every solution to address the client's specific needs, uses training to transfer knowledge and skills to the client's employees, and serves as a mentor and coach to sustain success.



For more information, contact

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7 field offices throughout Illinois

Illinois MEP CLIENT IMPACTS

Impacts are based on clients receiving service in FY2012

Total Increased/
Retained Sales



\$187.4 Million

Total Increased/
Retained Jobs



1,991

New Client
Investments



\$52.3 Million

CLIENT SUCCESS: CORRUGATED METALS, INC.

"IMEC delivers on everything they say they will. And their level of expertise and experience is just tremendous."

Ken Carlton, President

ISO Positions Company to Land Defense Contract

Corrugated Metals, Inc. provides roll-forming and metal-corrugating products and services for the construction industry, Original Equipment Manufacturers, and the U.S. military. The company employs 35 people at its facility in Belvidere, Illinois.

Situation:

With a significant portion of its business coming from government contracts, Corrugated Metals decided to pursue quality, efficiency and safety improvements to make its products and services more attractive to potential customers. The company called upon the Illinois Manufacturing Extension Center (IMEC), a NIST MEP network affiliate, for help.

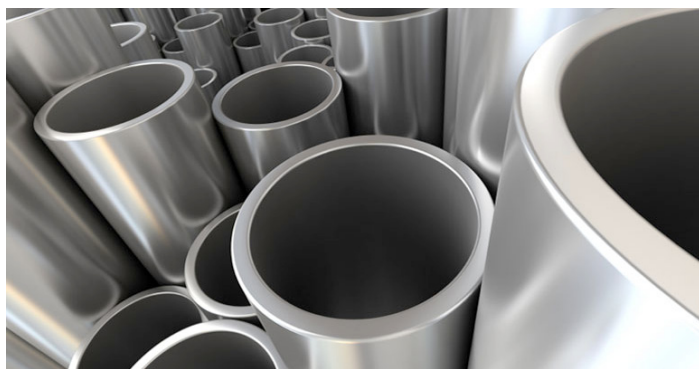
Solution:

IMEC provided training for Corrugated Metals' employees and worked with the company on documenting processes and protocols. With a comprehensive, custom Quality Management System in place, IMEC encouraged Corrugated Metals to pursue ISO 9001:2000 certification. Following successful ISO registration, IMEC helped the company achieve certification to the U.S. military's Qualified Suppliers List of Distributors (QSLD) in record time, completing the typical 18-month process in just 60 days. IMEC also helped the company develop a best practices safety plan that authorizes any employee to stop any action in the plant at any time for safety reasons.

Results:

- * Achieved ISO 9001:2000 certification.
- * Awarded \$30 million Department of Defense contract.
- * Improved safety levels.

Awarded \$30 million in
Department of Defense
Contract



2013